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STATINTL

# Cuba Rocked By Red Link to Student Deaths

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Hearst Headline Service Special to the N. Y. Journal-American  
WASHINGTON, April 13. — State Department sources disclosed today that "the most important internal political event" since Fidel Castro's seizure of power in January, 1959, is now rocking Cuba.

In fact, the Cuban "monolithic society" described by Sen. J. William Fulbright in his recent myths - and - realities speech seems to be splitting down the middle as a result of the sensational trial of a Communist "rat" named Marcos Rodriguez Alfonso.

## CASTRO ON DEFENSE

The Cuban Communist party, and perhaps Premier Castro himself, has for the first time been exposed as the "villain" that betrayed Cuban students who sought to assassinate Dictator Fulgencio Batista seven years ago.

As a result, the new-line Communist followers of Castro's July 26th Movement are reportedly turning wrathfully on old-line Moscow puppets whom Castro is now forced to defend.

The facts embarrassingly disclosed at the trial have stirred Cuba's controlled press to such an extent that Castro bellowed:

"Journalists of a certain mentality who are not careful in expressing their opinions might be sent to a Granja (concentration camp farm) to produce material goods."

The immediate cause of his choleric threat was a Havana newspaper item which read: "The Humboldt 7 affair is the talk of the town." Other stories hinted at Communist treachery which implicated Castro.

## STUDENTS SLAIN

The story had its beginnings March 13, 1957, when 50 to 70 students, members of the DRE (Students Revolutionary Directorate) were slaughtered by Batista's police in an uprising against the bloody dictator to

Four of the young leaders managed to escape to a Havana apartment at 7 Humboldt st., where they were subsequently found and machine-gunned to death. Another escapee was Faure Chomon, who is now Minister of Transport in the Castro government.

The trial of Rodriguez began quietly enough last month. A long-time underground Communist party member, he had wangled a diplomatic post in Czechoslovakia after Castro came to power, but was recalled in 1961 and imprisoned on charges of "aiding a foreign imperialist power."

## TIED TO REDS

Among the witnesses called was Chomon, former DRE leader, whose testimony against Rodriguez clearly implicated Cuba's Communist chiefs in the slaughter of the Cuban students.

It also indicated that the person most apt to gain from the bloody elimination of DRE leaders was Castro, then waiting in the wings in Oriente Province to seize the government.

The scandal became so sticky that Castro himself finally took the witness stand and openly defended the old-line Communists.

Raging against Cuban news stories hinting at treachery and inferentially taking the side of Chomon, Castro turned on his Cabinet member, and said:

"Intriguers are attempting to take advantage of this (trial)."

Evidence of this explosive schism within the Cuban government is now in the hands of our State Department. It would seem to present an unparalleled opportunity for